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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: 2094/1E286-US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Jeffrey M. LINNEN and Kevin M. GORMAN

Serial No.: 09/493,353

Art Unit: 1655

Filed: January 28, 2000

Examiner: J. Goldberg

For: OLIGONUCLEOTIDE PRIMERS FOR EFFICIENT DETECTION OF HEPATITIS C
VIRUS (HCV) AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with the continuing duty to disclose information under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants submit herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98. In particular, Applicants submit herewith:

- (1) Form PTO-1449 listing references for consideration by the Examiner;
and
- (2) A copy of each reference cited in the accompanying Form PTO-1449.

It is believed that the submission of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.97(c)(1) and (e)(1). Specifically, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of any final action for this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application. Each reference cited in the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (or a non-English language patent publication corresponding thereto) was first cited in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to this submission. Specifically, each reference was first cited in a search report issued on July 13, 2001 from the European Patent Office for the counterpart European patent application no. EP 00 30 0763.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully

complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

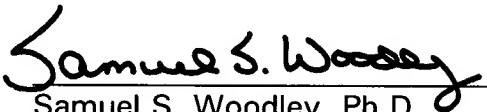
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of such document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1), it is believed that no fee is required for this submission. However, should the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determine that a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and

requested to charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100. An early and favorable consideration of this application is earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 11, 2001


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